



PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY BY
EDGAR SNOWDEN.
ALEXANDRIA:
FRIDAY MORNING, JANUARY 13, 1860.

The recent Message of the Governor of Virginia, deserves as it will receive, we hope, the calm consideration of the people of the State. This is not the time for acting without due deliberation—though it is a time for the exercise of firmness and determination. We hold to Gov. Wise's opinion that, as long as it is possible, the South should contend in the Union, for a Constitutional Union, and not give our enemies the advantage of the "Union" against the rights and interests of the Southern States. It remains to be proved if Gov. Letcher's propositions, (one of them, at least,) would aid and assist us, in maintaining the vantage ground we now hold, in the opinion of all constitutional patriots, and national men. If they do, we shall be satisfied—if not, we must be slow to endorse them, for our feeling of just resentment at the course and conduct of the disorganizers, traitors, and fanatics of the North; although it is a fact, that such has been the recent conduct of these people, that the most conservative men are almost ready for any thing which can relieve us of their annoyance and aggressions. The Richmond Whig opposes the call for a National Convention of the States, for the purpose of amending the Constitution; as no complaint is made about the provisions and guarantees of our present Constitution, but only that these compromises and guarantees are too often disregarded. "We want no better Constitution than the one we have. No better or wiser one could be made by any proposed Convention of the States. What is lacking, is a disposition to defend, uphold, and preserve the Constitution as it is. And if Southern rights and interests are insecure under the present Constitution, they would be insecure under any that could be framed by any Convention, no matter under what favorable auspices it might assemble and deliberate." This appears to us, to be true, and is a suggestion constantly to be borne in mind. With regard to the Governor's other recommendation, that Virginia should send a commission to those States which have passed laws nullifying or obstructing the execution of the Fugitive Slave Law, to remonstrate with such States, in an amicable spirit, and entreat them to repeal their unconstitutional legislation on that subject, the Whig thinks it is a judicious and proper one, and might result in great advantage to the whole country. The proposition at least is neighborly and peaceable in its character, and, if carried out, can certainly do no harm. It will show that the real disposition of the State and the people of the State, is to prevent a dissolution of the Union, so long as it can be prevented honorably and safely. And in this opinion, also, we are disposed to concur. We repeat, however, let the people examine the whole matter carefully, and dispassionately, and not form their opinions without duly weighing all the arguments pro and con.

The Washington Star asserts, and probably from correct information, "that among all the Democratic members of both Houses of Congress, not one is an advocate of the nomination of ex-Gov. Wise at Charleston, except three of the twelve Virginia Representatives, who are understood to be for it." This, we presume, will not surprise the friends of Gov. Wise. They have always said that the politicians and leaders would oppose him—but that he is stronger with the people, than he is with these gentlemen in Congress, and in other public positions. It is not for us, however, to decide.

A. Judson Crane, esq., has retired from the editorship of the Richmond News. His valedictory is a well written one, and in it, he reiterates his love of the Union, and his opposition to all sectionalism, and all efforts to dissolve and break up the government. He favors the proposition of Mr. Miles, of South Carolina, that Congress should organize temporarily and vote the supplies, and resign and leave the people in their homes to settle the impending questions of the day.

Many of the newspapers are arguing that, as at present constituted, (its decisions having no binding effect,) the Court of Claims, in Washington, is a useless and anomalous piece of government machinery, and ought to be dispensed with. It is certain that further legislation with regard to it, is necessary. It ought to have more power, or its decrees be made of more value.

The question is asked, why, if Mr. Francis J. Grund, is so obnoxious, particularly to the Democratic party, the President persists in giving him his confidence and support? Mr. Grund was rejected by the Senate, the other day, to an office to which he was nominated by the President; but, we see it stated, that he will, nevertheless, still have some employment under the government.

The Richmond Enquirer, Examiner, and Index, approve of Gov. Letcher's recent message—the Richmond Whig opposes one of the recommendations of the Message. The Petersburg Intelligencer, also opposes the Governor's suggestions.

An Anti-Slavery Convention is holding its sessions in Buffalo, New York. The abolitionists report there in numbers. They scream with joy at the tempest which has been raised.

Jeremiah Morton has been appointed Postmaster at the White Sulphur Springs, West G. W. C. Whiting, resigned.

The Washington Constitution says:—"The honest masses of the North are doing much that is good and patriotic; but they have much more to do. They must act as well as talk. They must organize and meet frequently, and devise means for defeating the black-republicans. They must not only resolve, they must do. They must proclaim the danger and their determination to meet it. They may believe, for it is true, that the excitement at the South is not factitious or ephemeral. It is real and enduring. Let them make the case of the South their own. Let them ask themselves what they would do were the South to insult and outrage their feelings, assail their institutions, make war on them and their property, and try to arm their servants to assassinate them? Let them ask themselves whether they would submit, and kiss the hand that smote them? They would unanimously and proudly answer, No, or they are unworthy of the name of Americans. Let them remember that the Southern men are fully their equals in blood, pride, dignity, and social and political rights."

During the voting for Speaker, in the House of Representatives, on Wednesday, Mr. Butler, of Virginia, said it was perfectly evident that there was no concentration of the Democratic vote upon their nominee, and it was unreasonable to expect members of the Southern Opposition to vote for him. He had been ready from the first to vote for any man in the Democratic organization that that party would concentrate upon, but when he found gentlemen who had politically affiliated with the Democratic nominee deserting him, he could not consistently with his self-respect, give his vote for a Democrat against a member of his own party. He voted for Mr. Gilmer. [Applause.]

The London Times contains an article on the inefficiency which at the present time characterizes the government of great cities, in the course of which it refers particularly to the municipal government of New York, and after describing the improvements which are fitting that city to become one of the largest and most beautiful in the world, says:—"All this has been done by private enterprise, and if the administration of the city had been in able and honest hands, the results would have been far more extraordinary. But, by all accounts, the municipality of the city has always been inefficient and corrupt."

A letter in the Petersburg Press, from Richmond, says:—"In the House of Delegates to-day a statement of a startling nature was made by the Chairman of the Finance Committee, and verified by the Auditor, to the effect that, since 1852, nearly half a million of dollars of the State revenue, collected by the Sheriffs, had never been paid into the State Treasury, and that there were only twelve counties in the State in which there had not been defalcations against the Commonwealth."

The New York papers give their usual annual statement of the foreign commerce of the port of New York for the past year, by which it appears that the imports of foreign goods are the largest of any year on record, being about fifteen million dollars larger than for 1857, and exclusive of specie, nearly twenty-five millions in excess of any previous year in the history of that port.

The Fredericksburg Recorder reviews and advocates the project regarding the construction of a branch of the Richmond, Fredericksburg, and Potomac Railway from some point near Fredericksburg, to tap the Orange and Alexandria line.

A Convention of the merchants of Mississippi has been called, to consider the best means of obtaining their goods direct from Europe.

There is a general thaw all over the country. We hope the circulation will be freer, in money, as well as rivers, as the spring approaches.

The northern commercial and manufacturing communities begin to feel, or at least to fear, the effect of the agitation at the South.

The receipts of the American Colonization Society for the month ending the 20th ultimo, amounted to \$2,714.

Letter from Richmond.
Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.
RICHMOND, Jan. 9.—The House of Delegates was engaged a long while to-day, upon the propriety of postponing the Covington and Ohio Railroad bill, (\$4,000,000) until Thursday, the 12th instant. Mr. Haymond, of Marion, proposed the 19th. Finally it was fixed for the 12th. The Finance Committee made a report of the probable state of the Finances from the Auditor's statement, which looked favorably. That statement, of course, was not based upon appropriations to be made at the present session. Already \$125,000 has been appropriated—\$100,000 of which to construct the Western Lunatic Asylum in the county of Lewis. A bill also passed to-day, amending the Senate's amendment to the House bill, appropriating \$200,000, to pay the expenses of the Harper's Ferry Invasion. It is supposed they will amount to from \$175,000 to \$200,000, depending upon how mileage, rations, &c., are drawn by the military staff—it being contended by some, that the officers are allowed this by the United States, and of course, Virginia ought to do the same. The Harper's Ferry Committee will report in a day or two. The report will be a very interesting one, and from it each one will be able to form his own opinion of the propriety of the course adopted. The bill for fitting up the armory, and buying guns, is not yet acted on. As the United States had 1 or 200,000 good muskets on hand, altered from Flint Locks to Percussions, they will sell at \$24 a piece, and cost \$13 to make—and are sure to be a first rate weapon, good enough to shoot Abolitionists, or any other dangerous animals with, it is thought they might obviate the expense of making guns to cost six times as much.

The meeting of the Stockholders of the Bank of Virginia, was held to-day. A resolution was adopted authorizing the Stockholders at the various Branches to nominate the Directors for each Branch, instead of as now. The Farmers Bank Stockholders meet on Wednesday, and the same resolution, it is understood, is to be offered at that meeting, so that the Presidents will not as heretofore, appoint as they are said to do, the Stockholders' Directors.

On Saturday, a bill was reported to incorporate the New York and Virginia Screw Steamship Company. (This is the Brown's.)

Tomorrow, the Convention of the Military militia, to recommend a re-organization of the militia. Already I notice a good many military men here, and some of them appear in uniform with their swords by their sides. "A LOOKER ON."

News of the Day.

"To show the very age and body of the times."
It is believed that but comparatively few mail contractors have assigned their claims, as scarce any of the evidences of indebtedness issued by the department have been returned, whether assigned or not. Refusals of contractors to carry the mails, gradually accumulate. Of them is that of Kent, Ficklin & Co., who have engagements for several of the routes in northern and western Virginia. They keep their stages in motion, but decline to carry the mails.

The steamship Tennessee, from Vera Cruz on the 8th, has arrived at New Orleans. Miramon took several places on the Pacific, but on his return to the capital they were recaptured by the Liberals. The Pianyunc's correspondent says the President's message, regarding intervention in Mexico, was well received by the Liberals.

On Friday last, a girl, aged about 15 years, and daughter of Mr. L. K. Barr, residing near Hagerstown, was frightfully hurt whilst washing near a fire in an outhouse. The Herald says that the young lady had her back to the fire, and having on an extension skirt, the latter came in contact with the flames as she leaned over or pressed against the tub in which she was doing her work. She was instantly enveloped in flames, and though thrown down and rolled in snow by her mother, the fire was not extinguished until the flesh on the poor girl's back was burned to a crisp.

A number of gentlemen, either holders in their own rights or representatives of parties holding bonds of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company, will meet this week at Annapolis for the purpose of conferring with the Legislature on the subject of the proposed extension of the canal, by a new method by which long long delayed justice may be obtained, in some measure, whether greater or less, by the creditors of the company.

Joel T. Hart, the distinguished American sculptor, has just returned to this country from Florence, where he has spent some years. He has gone to Kentucky, to receive an order from the Legislature for a colossal statue of Mr. Clay. His statue of Mr. Clay, made for the ladies of Virginia, is now in New York.

Mr. Iverson, of Georgia, in his speech in the Senate, spoke of Edward Everett, Robert Winthrop, and others, as "old and infirm fogies, who never controlled a vote or gave form or shape to a political meeting." This is just what the abolitionists at the North say of these gentlemen.

A correspondent of the Bangor Whig writes that Mrs. Polly Spencer, of Lincoln, Maine, now in her seventy-eighth year, spun forty skeins of woolen yarn, each skein containing seven knots, in five successive days in December, in addition to doing the house work for a family of six persons.

Dr. Ball, who went to Chiriqui in September last, to explore for gold, died recently on the Isthmus. He left Boca del Toro with a native, to explore on Fish Creek. After being out three days, exposed to drenching rains, they were lost, and Dr. Ball died from fatigue, suffering and starvation.

Rev. L. W. Berry, of the M. E. Church, has been received by the President of the Lutheran Synod as a licensed preacher in that church. The Observer says that Mr. Berry will be prepared to enter upon the discharge of ministerial duties whenever a field of labor is opened for him.

It is stated that Mr. Francis J. Grund was rejected by the U. S. Senate on Tuesday as counsel to have, but a motion to reconsider was made and is pending. In any event, Mr. Vesey will be removed, and Elijah Ward appointed, if Mr. Grund is not confirmed.

Mr. William Bain, a highly respectable and aged citizen of Baltimore, between Ogden and Chatsworth streets, on Tuesday afternoon committed suicide by cutting his throat with a razor.

Our Mississippi exchanges chronicle the fall of a considerable amount of snow. The whole State seems to have been covered with it to the depth of seven inches, as far south as the latitude of Natchez.

Agents are engaged in California in soliciting subscriptions to aid in building a college to be under the care of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. Governor Weller headed the list with a subscription of \$100.

A friend informs us that he has recently been loser to the extent of \$10, by taking two counterfeit \$5 notes on the Union Bank of South Carolina. The counterfeit is well executed.

Isaac Adkinson, one of the oldest and wealthiest citizens of Eastern Md., died on Monday. He was a member of the Society of Friends.

Hon. Baillie Peyton is in Washington, and has been much lionized.

COOK AND COPPIC.—The New York Herald's Richmond, Va., correspondent writes as follows:—"It appears that the letter of sympathy purporting to have been addressed by Copic to Mrs. Brown, which appeared in the Herald in connection with the account of the funeral obsequies of Old Brown, and was read in the Senate of this State by Mr. Thomas, of Fairfax, as an argument to prove that body of men, who were the petitioners for a commutation of Copic's sentence, was written by Cook, and not by Copic. You will remember that the letter detailed some of the events of the Harper's Ferry invasion, and particularly the part borne therein by both sons of Brown, with the events of their trial and death. In the narrative, the people of Harper's Ferry were described as 'enemies,' and it was this that led the Senate to believe that Copic was not repentant but had still cherished the same malignant feeling towards the people of Virginia that originally led to the invasion. Hence the rejection of the prayer of the petitioner by a unanimous vote. Mr. Thomas, who argued this state of feeling on the part of Copic from the terms of this letter of sympathy, was a strong advocate of the petition for a commutation of the sentence before the committee; but this letter entirely changed his opinion, and forced him to assume an opposite position. It appears that Copic was illiterate, and having entrusted to Cook the duty of writing for him, he employed such language as rather reflected his own feelings than those of Copic's. The letter cost Copic his life."

SELECT SCHOOL FOR BOYS.—GAYWOOD, CLARKE COUNTY, VA.—In this school are taught the Ancient and Modern Languages, Mathematics, and a very thorough course of English Literature. The number of pupils is limited to fifteen. The fourth session will commence on the 15th inst. Three vacancies will occur at the close of the present term, which may be filled by early application to the subscriber.
Terms.—Board and Tuition per month, \$1.50. This number being designed for the education of his own children, the subscriber will, to all his members, extend parental supervision.
W. B. HARRIS,
Gaywood, near Millwood, Clarke County, Va.
Jan 7—2awdw

A CARD.—My health being much improved, I shall resume the practice of the law, as heretofore, and will give proper attention to claims placed in my hands for collection.
JAN 7—lawt
CHRISTOPHER NEALE.

PIEDMONT CLASSICAL ACADEMY, Fauquier County, Va.—The duties of this school will be resumed on Monday, 24 January, 1860. Its successful operation for six years, (under its present Principal, Rev. E. M. Edwards,) is the best guarantee of future usefulness. The expenses of a student for board and tuition does not exceed \$150 for ten months. Peculiar advantages afforded to preparation for College, or for business life. Catalogues and Circulars forwarded to any address, on application to
F. M. EDWARDS,
Piedmont, Virginia (Fauquier County).
Fauquier county, Dec 15—awdw

Virginia News.

THE MILITARY CONVENTION.—At the evening session of the Convention, in session in Richmond, on Monday, the names of Col. J. Lucius Davis and Col. Ramey were added to the list of Vice-Presidents.

Capt. Green, of the United States Marine Corps, Captain Wiley of the Amelia Silver Greys, (a soldier of 1812), and Col. Thomas Jefferson Randolph, were invited to seats in the Convention.

The following Committee were appointed to prepare business:—
Gen. Scott, of 4th Brigade; Gen. Harmon, of 13th do.; Col. A. H. Adams, of 12th do.; Col. Chambers, of 15th do.; Capt. Scott, of 3d do.; Col. Stuart, of 6th do.; Col. Taylor, of 2d do.; Capt. Jas. T. Preston, of 17th do.; Capt. Patton, of 22d do.; Col. Page, of 14th do.; Col. J. F. Preston, of 26th do.; Major Cecil, of 28th do.; Col. Carrington, of 11th do.; Major Lamb, of 9th do.; Col. Wingfield, of 8th do.; Col. Nalle, of 1st do.; Capt. Chas. Dimmock, Col. Strange, Col. J. L. Davis.

Gen. Taliaferro, was added to the committee.

Capt. Patton, from the committee to prepare business, presented a partial report, which was read.

The report submitted a plan for organizing the Field, Staff, Division and Brigade officers.

Capt. Patton gave notice on behalf of the minority of the committee, that they would present a report as a substitute for that of the committee as soon as they can write it out.

The report was passed by, and Col. Thos. J. Randolph gave an outline of his plan for reorganizing the militia. He was in favor of so dividing the militia service as to impose patrol and jury duty on citizens of one age, and military duty on those of another.

An invitation to accept of a collocation prepared by the soldiery of Richmond, was unanimously accepted.

The report of the committee on business was taken up at the night session on Tuesday.

That portion of the report organizing the Staff Corps, duties of officers, &c., was adopted.

That part providing for "Quartermaster and Commissary Department," was put to vote and adopted.

That portion referring to an "Inspector's Department," was read and adopted.

The fourth recommendation for an "Ordinance Department" was read.

After considerable discussion, Col. Chancellor moved to strike out all that part of the report which provides for an "Ordinance Department," and the motion being put to vote was carried in the affirmative. So that the "Ordinance Department" was dispensed with.

That portion of the report providing for a "Medical Department" was next read, and adopted.

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VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE.

In the Senate on Tuesday, the following bills were reported from committees: To complete the Virginia Central Railroad; providing for the completion of the Covington and Ohio Railroad; authorizing a loan to the Manassas Gap Railroad Company; for the relief of the Norfolk and Petersburg Railroad Company; increasing the capital stock of the Manassas Gap Railroad Company, and authorizing a subscription thereto by the Board of Public Works; for a further subscription to the Alexandria, Loudoun and Hampshire Railroad Company; incorporating the Lynchburg and North Carolina Railroad Company; amending an act passed 1st April, 1853, concerning wild fowl; for the relief of the Rev. J. Packard; for the relief of H. Brower.

The resolutions formerly adopted in relation to changing the compensation of justices of the peace, and in relation to amending the law in relation to summoning the justices of a County Court, for private purposes, were reported back to the Senate by committees, as inexpedient.

Resolutions of enquiry were adopted, of amending the Code so as to provide compensation for a party summoned to answer a suggestion; of providing a remedy for the collection of debts from counties and municipal corporations, and granting a charter of incorporation to the Charlottesville Manufacturing Company.

A bill was passed to provide for the payment of the interest on the bonds of the city of Wheeling, which may have been guaranteed by the State.

The act for defraying expenses incurred by the Executive, for the purchase of arms and munitions for the defence of the Commonwealth, was laid on the table.

A communication was received from the House, that it had passed a resolution for the appointment of a joint committee of five on the part of the Senate and seven the part of House, "to receive as the guest of the Commonwealth of Virginia, C. G. Meminger, Speaker of the House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina, and Messrs. Mosely, Wilson, Rives, McKenzie, Borenman, Ward, Hoffman, Watson, A. C. Bassell, Landy, Porter, Miller, McDowell and Lynn.

A communication was received from the Governor, enclosing a letter from C. G. Meminger, esq., of Charleston, S. C., the Commissioner from South Carolina to Virginia, announcing his intended arrival in Richmond on Thursday evening.

Resolutions were adopted enquiring into the expediency of incorporating the Potomac, Piedmont and Valley Agricultural Society; of allowing the payment of certain lost coupons to Josiah Lee, of Baltimore; of compensating the commissioners of the Revenue, for the services rendered by them in the execution of the law relating to the military of the State; of amending section 1, chapter 58, so as to require stockholders of branch banks to hold meetings ten days before the general meeting of stockholders, and elect proxies to represent them in the same; by Mr. Barbour, of allowing the claim of James R. Field, of Culpeper; by Mr. McKenzie, of amending sec. 12, chap. 58 of the Code, releasing John L. Hunt from a fine; of appointing commissioners to visit the slaveholding States, to urge the erection of a joint armory; of amending the law relative to the compensation of commissioners of the Revenue; of authorizing bonds given before Circuit Courts in term time, to be given in vacation; of making it expedient for overseers of the poor to bind out poor children; of providing a mode by which State turnpikes may by law be kept in good condition.

Bills were reported incorporating the Martinsburg Railroad Company; transferring portions of the Luray and Front Royal Turnpike to Rockingham and Page counties; incorporating the Bank of Charlottesville; Senate bill to more effectually prevent dealing with slaves, and the free sale of the same; to prevent depredations in the counties bordering on the Potomac, (with an amendment) amending the charter of the Northern and Southern Railroad Company; authorizing the Virginia Military Institute to condemn certain lands, for water purposes; providing for working and keeping in repair the roads in Fauquier county; compelling the owners or occupants of contiguous lands to build partition fences; concerning the manner of granting merchants' licenses; extending the jurisdiction of a single Justice of the Peace.

The bill appropriating \$500,000 for the arming and defence of the State, came up as unfinished business, the question being on the amendment offered by Mr. Borenman, making the appropriation for the purchase of arms \$100,000 instead of \$180,000.

The vote was taken and the amendment defeated—ayes 23, nays 117.

Mr. Arnold offered an amendment authorizing the Governor to appoint three commissioners to select the site of a Military Academy in the Alleghenies. Ruled out as unconstitutional.

Mr. Anderson offered an independent resolution, to come after the 4th inst., authorizing the Governor to take the Army item for the manufacture of arms, by contract with citizens of Virginia, if it can be done at less cost than they can be made on State account.

The amendment was defeated—ayes, 55, nays 73.

Mr. Blue moved an amendment, limiting the Master Armorer's salary to \$2,000—defeated.

Mr. McKenzie moved to strike out the lines requiring the arms purchased to be "of the most approved quality." The motion was defeated.

Mr. Hoffman moved an amendment, requiring the money to "be paid out of money now in the treasury, not otherwise appropriated," and not raised by loan as the bill prescribes. He afterwards amended his own amendment, so as to allow the Governor to raise the amount by temporary loan, if the amount in the treasury be not sufficient.

The amendment, as amended, was defeated ayes 24, nays 117, and the House adjourned.

FAUQUIER FARM FOR SALE.—Having determined to move to a new country, I am offered for sale my FARM, situated about five miles from Warrenton, the County seat of Fauquier County, and three miles from the Fauquier White Sulphur Springs. It adjoins the lands of Robert Harp, Robert Holm, and others, and contains THREE HUNDRED AND FIFTY ACRES AND THREE QUARTER ACRES, with an abundance of good wood and timber. 150 acres of this land is finely tilled in grass with a good meadow of 25 acres. The whole FARM is well supplied with water, good springs being found in every field. There is a quantity of good surface rock for fencing, and a most excellent stone quarry on the land.

THE DWELLING HOUSE and out buildings are very comfortable.

Terms of sale, on reasonable accommodation, or can be known by calling upon the subscriber, or by letter addressed to him at Warrenton, Fauquier County, Va. WM. T. MCCARTY.

\$250 REWARD.—Runaway from the subscribers, at Alexandria, Va., on the night of the 20th of October, a negro man named DAVID NIXON, said to be about five feet high, five or six inches high, weight about one hundred and fifty pounds, and is twenty-one or two years of age; full set of hair; a scar or mark on the right cheek; likely, with good teeth. He is doubtless making his way to the free States, and will give above reward for taking and securing so that we get him again. [Nov 3—awdw] A. S. GRIGSBY & CO.

"Peaceable Secession."

Daniel Webster in his famous 7th March speech, thus spoke of Secession. "Mr. President," said Mr. Webster. "I should much prefer to have heard from every member on this floor, declarations of opinion that this Union should never be dissolved, than the declaration of opinion by anybody, in any case, under the pressure of any circumstances, such a dissolution was possible. I hear with pain and anguish and distress, the word 'secession,' especially when it falls from the lips of those who are patriotic, and known to the country and known all over the world, for their political services. Secession! Peaceable secession! Sir, you're eyes and mine are never destined to see that miracle. The dismemberment of this vast country without convulsion! The breaking up the fountains of the great deep without ruffling the surface! Who is so foolish, I beg everybody's pardon, as to expect to see any such thing? Sir, he who sees these States, now revolving in harmony around a common centre, and expects to see them quit their places and fly off without convulsion, may look the next hour to the clouds and see the sun, and the moon, and the stars and planets and the whole system of the universe, without causing the crash of the universe. There can be no such thing as a peaceable secession. Peaceable secession is an utter impossibility. Is the great Constitution under which we live, covering this whole country, is it to be thawed and melted away by secession, as the snows on the mountains melt under the influence of a vernal sun? disappear almost unobserved and run off? No sir! I will not state what might produce the disruption of the Union; but, sir, I see as plainly as I see the sun in heaven, that such disruption must produce, I see that it must produce war, such a war as I will not describe, in its two-fold character.

Peaceable secession!—peaceable secession. The concurrent agreement of all the members of this great Republic to separate!—A voluntary separation, with alimony on one side and on the other. Why, what would be the result? Where is the line to be drawn? What States are to secede?—What is to remain of America? What am I to be? An American no longer? Am I to become a sectional man, a local man, a separatist, with no country in common with the gentlemen who sit around me here, or who fill the other House of Congress? Heaven forbid! Where is the flag of the Republic to remain? Where is the eagle still to tower? Is he to cower and shrink and fall to the ground? Why, sir, our ancestors—our fathers and our grandfathers, those of them that are yet living amongst us with prolonged lives, would rebuke and reproach us; and our children and our grandchildren would cry out shame upon us, if we, of this generation, should dishonor these ensigns of the power of the government and the harmony of that Union, which is every day felt amongst us with so much joy and gratitude. What is to become of the army? What is to become of the navy? What is to become of the public lands? How is each of the States to take care of itself? I know, although the idea has not been stated distinctly, there is to be, or it is supposed, possible that there should be, a Southern Confederacy.

I do not mean, when I allude to this statement, that any one seriously contemplates such a state of things. I do not mean to say that it is true, but I have heard it suggested elsewhere that that idea has originated a design to separate. I am sorry, sir, that it has ever been thought of, talked of, or dreamed of, in the wildest flights of human imagination. But the idea, so far as it exists, must be a separation, assigning the slave States to one side, and the free States to the other. Sir, I may express myself too strongly, perhaps, but some things, some moral things, are almost as impossible as any natural or physical things; and I hold the idea of a separation of these States, those that are free to form one government, and those that are slaveholding to form another, as a moral impossibility. We could not separate the States by any such line, if we were to draw it. We could not sit down here to-day and draw a line of separation that could satisfy any men in the country. The country is too small, that would keep and tie us together, and there are social and domestic relations which we could not break if we would, and which we should not if we could. Sir, nobody can look over the face of this country at the present moment, nobody can see where its population is the most dense and growing, without being ready to admit, and compelled to admit that ere long America will be in the valley of the Mississippi.

Well, now, sir, I beg to enquire what the wildest enthusiast has to say on the possibility of cutting that river in two and leading the States as it is, to separate its branches, and the slave States down near its mouth, each forming a separate government? Pray, sir, let me say to the people of this country that these things are worthy of their pondering and of their consideration. Here, sir, are five millions of freemen in the free States north of the river Ohio; can anybody suppose that this population can be severed by a line that divides them from the territory of a foreign and an alien government, down somewhere, the Lord knows where, upon the low or banks of the Mississippi? What would become of the Missouri?

What would become of all the slave States north of the Yellow Stone and the Platte to be connected in the new Republic with the man who lives on the southern extremity of the cape of Florida? Sir, I am ashamed to pursue this line of remark. I dislike it, I have an utter disgust for it. I would rather hear of natural blasts and mildews, war, pestilence and famine, than to hear gentlemen talk of secession. To break up to break up this great government, to dismember this glorious country, to annihilate Europe with an act of folly such as Europe for two centuries has never believed in any government or any people. No, sir, no sir.

VALUABLE LOUISIANA LAND FOR SALE.—Wishing to dispose of my real estate, I offer to sell the proceeds among my children, I offer to sell, privately, my FARM, Situated in Louisiana, near the mouth of the Mississippi, and near the mouth of the Red River, and near the mouth of the Atchafalaya, and near the mouth of the Iberville, and near the mouth of the Teche, and near the mouth of the Vermilion, and near the mouth of the Calcasieu, and near the mouth of the Lake de la Poudre, and near the mouth of the Lake de la Charite, and near the mouth of the Lake de la St. Pierre, and near the mouth of the Lake de la St. Louis, and near the mouth of the Lake de la St. Charles, and near the mouth of the Lake de la St. John, and near the mouth of the Lake de la St. Denis, and near the mouth of the Lake de la St. Martin, and near the mouth of the Lake de la St. Michel, and near the mouth of the Lake de la St. Eloi, and near the mouth of the Lake de la St. Gervais, and near the mouth of the Lake de la St. Nizier, and near the mouth of the Lake de la St. Etienne, and near the mouth of the Lake de la St. Remy, and near the mouth of the Lake de la